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BOROUGH OF DROITWICH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

BOROUGH SURVEYOR
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1970

MEMBERS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL 1970-71

His Worship the Mayor:	Councillor D. Platts
Deputy Mayor:	Alderman R. Jolliffe, J.P.

Aldermen:
- R. D. N. Fabricius, C.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L.
- B. Inett
- J. A. Pittaway

Councillors:
- E. A. Baggott
- J. H. Brackston
- J. T. DeBlaby
- Mrs. T. D. Hammond
- S. B. Harris
- T. Morgan
- H. Roberts
- Mrs. A. Sandles
- G. D. Showell
- Mrs. M. G. S. Tedford
- J. F. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THIS AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health	L. Spencer Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector	Graham L. Robinson, C.Eng., F.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. Certificated Meat & Food Inspector
Additional Public Health Inspector	Richard Hill, M.A.P.H.I., Certificated Meat & Food Inspector Certificates in Sanitary Science (Meat and Foods) Liverpool School of Hygiene

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Public Health Department,
Covercroft,
Droitwich. WR9 8DD

August, 1971.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
BOROUGH OF DROITWICH

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

Nineteen seventy may well have been an important year in relation to the future of the Borough but from the point of view of the Health of the town, few changes occurred. One may find points of interest in the statistics under Section A, in that the standardised Birth Rate is well above that for England and Wales and up on last year. The standardised Death Rate is also very low, but this is due to a comparability factor of 0.76 used by the Registrar to adjust the crude rate due to the large number of elderly persons in the town at Institutions such as The Heriotts. Of course all estimates of population are still based on the 1961 census figures, but the above pointers could mean that we shall be in for a surprise when the 1971 census figures (just taken) are published.

One of the encouraging events in the year was the Public Meeting held to consider the possibility of a General Improvement Area for the Newtown (Burrish, Miller and Albert Streets) part of the town. Reaction was generally quite favourable. This will save a considerable block of property (some 300 houses), and I hope the Area will in due course be confirmed both by the Council and the appropriate Ministerial Department.

Frustration was mounting by the close of the year on three issues :-

1. the failure of the Government to give a clear lead on the reorganisation of Local Government.

2. the failure of the Secretary of State for the Environment to approve the Town Centre Plan.

3. the pending closure of the Brine Baths.

I am pleased to say that there has now been successful release on all three items which will provide more suitable topics for discussion next year, when I hope the position on each will be clarified.

I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

L. SPENCER STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

LSS/MGM/FEH

Public Health Department,
Government,
Droitwich. WR9 8ED

August, 1971.

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Nineteen seventy may well have been an important year in relation to the future of the Borough but from the point of view of the Health of the town, few changes occurred. One may find points of interest in the statistics under Section 2, in that the standardised Birth Rate is well above that for England and Wales and up on last year. The standardised Death Rate is also very low, but this is due to a comparability factor of 0.76 used by the Registrar to adjust the crude rate due to the large number of elderly persons in the town at Institutions such as the Wariotts. Of course all estimates of population are still based on the 1961 census figures, but the above pointers could mean that we shall be in for a surprise when the 1971 census figures (just taken) are published.

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I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

L. SPENCER STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

LSS/MCR/FEH

SECTION "A" - STATISTICS

Area	2040 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of resident population mid 1970	11,650
Number of inhabited houses 31st March, 1970 (according to Rate books)	3,525
Rateable value at 31st March, 1970.	£486,143
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1970	£1,918

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for the year:-

Live Births	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	110	105	215	(168)
Illegitimate	5	7	12	(11)

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5%	(6%)
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	19.5	(17.3)
Birth Rate - England and Wales	16.0	(16.3)

(Figures in brackets relate to the previous year.)

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	17
Still Birth Rate - England and Wales	13

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	61	62	123

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.6
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	8.1
Death Rate - England and Wales	11.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	13
Infantile Mortality Rate - England and Wales ...	18

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	9
Neonatal Mortality Rate - England and Wales ...	12
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ...	26
Perinatal Mortality Rate - England and Wales ...	23
Maternal Deaths	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil

SECTION "A" - VITAL STATISTICS

Area	2040 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of resident population end 1970	11,650
Number of inhabited houses 31st March, 1970 (according to Rate books)	3,525
Rateable value as 31st March, 1970.	£406,145
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1970	£4,540

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for the year:-

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	110	105	215 (166)
Illegitimate	5	7	12 (14)

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 5% (6%)
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population ... 19.5 (17.1)
Birth Rate - England and Wales 16.0 (16.3)

(Figures in brackets refer to the previous year.)

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births 17
Still Birth Rate - England and Wales 13

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	61	62	123

Crude death Rate per 1,000 population 10.6
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population ... 8.4
Death Rate - England and Wales 11.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... 15
Infantile Mortality Rate - England and Wales ... 18

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... 9
Neonatal Mortality Rate - England and Wales ... 12
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ... 26
Perinatal Mortality Rate - England and Wales ... 23
Maternal Deaths ... ... Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH
(in accordance with the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases", B List - 50 Main Causes)

		Male	Female
B.6(1)	Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	-	1
B.18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1
B.19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	-	1
B.19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	2	1
B.19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	1	1
B.19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	-
B.19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2
B.19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
B.19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostrate ...	1	-
B.19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-
B.19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	3
B.20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	1	-
B.21	Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
B.23	Anaemias	-	1
B.28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	17	13
B.29	Other Forms of Heart Disease ...	3	7
B.30	Cerebrovascular Disease	4	18
B.46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	1
B.31	Influenza	4	-
B.32	Pneumonia	6	5
B.33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	3
B.46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2
B.34	Peptic Ulcer	1	-
B.46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	-
B.39	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	-
B.46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
B.42	Congenital Anomalies	1	-
B.43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	-	1
BE.48	All Other Accidents	3	-
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	61	62

CAUSES OF DEATH

(In accordance with the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases". B List - 50 Main Causes)

		Male	Female
B.6(1)	Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	-	1
B.16	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1
B.19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	-	1
B.19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	3	1
B.19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	1	1
B.19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	-
B.19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2
B.19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
B.19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ...	1	-
B.19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-
B.19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	3
B.20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	1	-
B.21	Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
B.22	Anaemia	-	1
B.28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	17	13
B.29	Other Forms of Heart Disease ...	3	1
B.30	Cerebrovascular Disease	1	10
B.44(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	1
B.31	Influenza	1	-
B.32	Pneumonia	4	5
B.33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	3
B.45(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2
B.34	Peptic Ulcer	1	-
B.46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	-
B.35	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
B.46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
B.42	Congenital Anomalies	1	-
B.43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	-	1
B.44	All Other Accidents	3	-
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	61	62

SECTION "B" - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. The following services are provided by the County Council :-

(a) Ambulance Service

The main Ambulance Station is situated at Worcester where a fleet of modern ambulances in manned day and night. The service is now under Radio Control which helps considerably in dealing with emergency calls.

A special ambulance for rheumatic cases is provided by the Hospital Management Committee. This vehicle is equipped with special devices for the aid of crippled patients.

The hospital car service, manned by volunteers, is used to supplement the Ambulance Service.

(b) Home Help Service

This service has now been taken over by the County Council from the W.V.S. being administered from the Royal George Buildings, Hanbury Street, Droitwich. The service provides domestic help for the aged, in case of illness, and for maternity cases during confinement.

There are now 18 part-time Home Helps on the Register.

Payment for this service is made according to means.

During the year, the following cases were assisted through this service:-

Chronic sick	5
Aged (Sick and infirm)	69
Maternity	11
Others	9
Total	94

The introduction of a Meals on Wheels service twice a week to elderly people in the town has been greatly welcomed and is running successfully, 3,109 meals being served, compared with 2,628 the previous year.

(c) Home Nursing and Health Visiting Service

Four District Nurse Midwives are stationed in the Borough. They attend booked domiciliary midwifery cases and assist the General Practitioners with general nursing problems and injections in the home. There are also three Health Visitors for the Borough whose main duties are the care of young children from 0 - 5 years, but they are also responsible for the health and welfare of the whole family. They attend the Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics and are in close contact with the Voluntary Services. A specialist Health Visitor is employed for visiting cases of Tuberculosis, and she operated from the Royal Infirmary, Worcester, where she is under the supervision of the Chest Physician in charge. There is also a Geriatric Health Visitor caring for the elderly in the town.

(d) Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children

The County Council's Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday and Friday afternoon at the Norbury Clinic, Friar Street, Droitwich.

During the year 3,304 attendances were made at this Clinic compared with 4,455 the previous year.

There were 841 children (0-5 years) on the Register at 31st December, 1970 compared with 837 the previous year.

The County Council's Ante-Natal clinic is now closed but Parentcraft and Relaxation classes are held on alternate Thursdays for the benefit of mothers attending their General Practitioners. A physiotherapist, Midwife and Health Visitors are in attendance.

Health Centre premises are urgently required and it is hoped that work will proceed as soon as the Central Development Area plan for the Town is approved.

(e) Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and immunisation can be carried out free of charge by the patient's own doctor, or at the County Council's Clinic.

The following inoculations were done during 1970.

(i) Diptheria Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	140	(84)
Number of children who received a reinforcing dose	230	(136

(ii) Tetanus Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	141	(88)
Number of children who received a reinforcing dose	235	(147)

(iii) Whooping Cough Immunisation

Number of children who received a full course	125	(77)

(iv) Measles Vaccination

Number of children who received a Primary dose	128	(110)

(v) Vaccination against Smallpox

Number of persons who received primary vaccination	76	(147)
Number of persons who were re-vaccinated	9	(19)

(figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

(vi) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Number of persons who received a full course during the year	138	(71)
Number of persons who received re-inforcing doses during the year	280	(276)

(f) Welfare Services

The Welfare Services are administered by the Welfare Section of the Health Department under the direction of the County Welfare Officer. The following facilities are available:-

(1) Residential accommodation for the elderly who are unable to look after themselves.
(2) Temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need.
(3) Special services for blind persons.
(4) Special services for deaf and dumb persons.
(5) Special assistance for other handicapped persons.

(g) Mental Health Service

The Mental Health Department has been expanded to deal with the provision of the Mental Health Act, 1959. The Act abolishes the term Mental Deficiency and introduces the term Mental Disorder which includes severe subnormality, subnormality, mental illness and psychopathic disorder. Mental Welfare Officers have been appointed who act in conjunction with approved Medical Officers and the Hospital Services. Statutory duties of the County Council include:-

(1) The provision of residential accommodation.
(2) The provision of Centres or other facilities for training or occupation.
(3) The exercise of functions relating to persons placed under guardianship.
(4) The provision of an ancilliary or supplementary services for persons suffering from mental disorder.

(h) School Health Service

The County Council provides a comprehensive School Health Service. School Medical Officers visit all Primary and Secondary Schools in the Borough at regular intervals. Every school child receives three medical examinations during his or her school life, but children in whom abnormalities are detected are seen more frequently. Visual activity and colour tests are given at 7-8 years old. An innovation is the routine testing of hearing with an Audiometer, in order to select children who are partially deaf for special investigation.

2. Hospitals

The following services are provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board:-

(i) The District is served by general hospitals in Worcester and Bromsgrove.

(ii) Cases of Infectious disease are admitted to Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester. This hospital also accommodates cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

(iii) Maternity cases which cannot be confined at home are admitted to Maternity Homes at Stourport, Bromsgrove or Ronkswood.

(iv) The Town is well recognised as one of the leading centres for the treatment of Rheumatic disease. There are two special hospital reserved exclusively for treating the more severe cases of the disease, and both operate on a National basis, accepting cases from all over the country. Highfield Hospital has 60 beds and St. John's 64 beds. It was with regret that the Council heard that the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board intended to end their Out-Patient contract with the Brine Baths with effect from 31st March, 1968. After much negotiaition, the Medical Trust obtained a deferment so that National Health Service patients continued to be accepted for two years until March, 1970, they then continued as a private undertaking. It has now been announced that the Brine Baths will have to close down at 31st August, 1971, and there is a distinct possibility that the Borough Council will take over from that date. However, brine theraphy for private patients is not likely to be available, and alternatively arrangements for National Health Service patients are being provided at Highfield Hospital.

(v) Psychiatric Hospitals for mental disorders are available at Powick, Worcester, and Barnsley Hall, Bromsgrove.

(vi) The Public Health Laboratory at Worcester Royal Infirmary is available to both General Practitioners and Local Authority Medical Officers for the examination of clinical and bacteriological specimens. Chemical Analyses of Water, Sewage, Food, Drugs, etc., are however carried out by the County Analyst.

End of Section "B"

SECTION "C" - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

(a) Quality and Quantity

The East Worcestershire (Droitwich Borough) Water Order 1960 transferred the Council's Water undertaking to the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company. Certain improvements have been made since that date including the construction of a 150,000 gall water tower at Yew Tree Hill adjacent to the reservoir. Pressures throughout the Town have improved. There has been no shortage of water and as can be seen from the results below, the quality has been quite satisfactory.

(b) Chemical and bacteriological examinations

The water is drawn from five separate sources near the Lickey Hills. Samples are taken from source by the Company at approximately fortnightly intervals, and spot checks taken in the town periodically. At all times during the year, the water was found to be satisfactory. Bacteriological results are shown on all five boreholes and a chemical analysis on one of them:-

Date 10.8.70.	No. of Colonies growing on Agar		Probable No. of Coliform Bacilli	Probable No. of Faecal Coli	Remarks
	2 days at 37°C	3 days at 22°C			
No. 1 Borehole Brockhill P/Station	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Satisfactory
No. 1 Borehole Burcot P/Station	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	"
Nos 2,3,4 Boreholes Sugarbrook P/Station	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	"
No. 3 Borehole Washing-Stocks P/Station	Nil	8	Nil	Nil	"
No. 1 Borehole Wildmoor P/Station	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	"

Chemical Analysis - No's 1, 2, 3, and 4, Boreholes
Sugarbrook Pumping Station.

17th November, 1970.

Colour Colourless
Odour None
Deposit None pH 7.6

Contd/.

Cont/d

Chemical Examination	Parts per million
Suspended Matter (Dried at 100°C)	-
Total Dissolved Solids (Dried at 180°C)	205
Chlorine present as Chloride	10
Hardness Non-Carbonate	26
" Carbonate	148
" Total	174
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	1.4
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Permanganate Value (4 hours at 27°C)	0.05
Toxic Metals	None detected
Total Residual Chlorine	Nil
Fluorine	Not estimated
Synthetic Detergents (as Manoxol)	-
Phosphates (as PO_4)	-
Free Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)	4

(c) FLUORIDATION was commenced at Sugarbrook Pumping Station in July 1968. Although results at the works did remain fairly close to 1 part per million, the plant had to be shut down on two or three occasions due to intermittent pumping in case the figures rose too high. In fact the Laboratory Reports on samples near the Chateau Impney gates or at the Heriotts fluctuated widely from 0.63 to 1.02 p.p.m. with one sample showing as low as 0.29. It does seem difficult to maintain a steady level in practice therefore.

(d) Toxic Metals

The water has no plumbo-solvent but is fairly hard.

(e) Contamination

No action was necessary during the year.

(f) WELL Supplies

Only one house on the Borough Boundary now relies on Well Water.

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Good progress was made with the construction of the Ladywood Water Pollution Control Works during the first half of the year, and the official Inauguration was carried out by The Right Honourable Peter Walker, M.B.E., M.P., on Friday, 24th July, 1970. The trunk sewers had already been laid consisting of 2¾ miles of 21" - 42" sewer down the Salwarpe Valley including foul river crossings. Two branch sewers also drain the valley south of the town to Falsam Pits, and the valley west of the town from Boycott to Briar Mill, and thence to Ladywood. The Ladywood works, which is situated on a 30 acre site is the first instalment of a scheme to provide for an ultimate population of 30,000 to 35,000 with a flow of 2,650,000 gallons per day. The present instalment now functioning is capable of dealing with a flow of 1,450,000 gallons per day if the 'Pasveer' Ditch (constructed in 1969) is also used, but this has been closed down temporarily as the flows entering the works are relatively small at present. Nevertheless, flows between 500,000 - 650,000 gallons per day have been recorded and during a heavy storm in August 2.78 inches of rain resulted in a storm flow of nearly 2½ million gallons before the river flooded the flumes near the pumphouse.

The Sewage Works Manager keeps a careful eye on the plant including the mechanical sludge lifting equipment and the heated anaerobic digestor. This had to be "seeded" by the importation of 10,000 galls of active digesting sludge from the Worcester Sewage Disposal Works. Also trade effluents from the new Industrial zone have to be monitored.

The Council were prudent in appointing an Effluent Control Officer/ Chemist (Mr. K. Kingham) who set up his laboratory some six months before the works opened, and did a considerable amount of "spade work".

The analytical results submitted to the Committee every month are now very satisfactory and this is a good thing, for although a Standard Consent (30:20: SS/B.O.D.) was issued by the Severn River Authority, their demands for levels on toxic metals (L.O. 5 p.p.m.) were considered to be too stringent and an Appeal was lodged with the Ministry. Consultant Chemists have also been appointed by the Council and will be available to fight any Court cases on unauthorised Trade Effluents which may be discharged into the sewers in the future.

3. Refuse Disposal

The refuse collection service continued to operate satisfactorily within the Borough including the provision of large skips for the dumping of scrap on the new housing estates. The refuse disposal service has for two to three years now been dependent on collaboration with the Rural District Council. During the greater part of 1970 all town refuse had to be transported to a temporary tipping site at Jacobs Ladder, Claines - some six miles away, which added considerably to transport costs. Now a new tip has been made available at Hanbury Wharf Brickworks which should provide space for some 20 - 30 years. This is approximately 1 mile from the town on the eastern side of the motorway, and should be very suitable for the needs of an expanding town.

4. Public Health Inspections

Details of this work are included in the report of the Engineer & Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector. A considerable amount of time was involved in preliminary inspections and co-operation with the Town Development officials who prepared an Exhibition and Public Meeting from 16th - 19th November on the Newtown General I Improvement Area involving some 300 dwellings. It seems likely that this area will be approved in addition to a small Clearance Area adjacent to it.

5. Rodent Control

Since we lost our Rodent Operative in 1969 this work has been carried out on a contract basis under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector and is working quite satisfactorily.

1970	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Domestic and business premises	Agricultural buildings
Number of properties in the District	4,725	5
Total number of properties following notification	132	2
Number infested by (i) Rats	108	1
(ii) Mice	42	1
Total number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification	9	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	3	-
(ii) Mice	3	-
Number of sewers infested by rats during the year	Nil	-

End of Section "C"

SECTION "D" - HOUSING

The following tables show the work carried out in the town on Housing and Slum Clearance during 1970.

			1970
A.	Number of new houses erected:-		
	(i)	By the Local Authority	379
	(ii)	By other Local Authorities	Nil
	(iii)	By other bodies or persons	53
B.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-		
	(i)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act)	133
	(ii)	Number of re-inspections	135
	(iii)	Under the Housing Acts	
		Number of inspections	173
		Number of re-inspections	-
C	Action under Statutory Powers during the year		
	1.	Under the Public Health Acts	
		(a) Number of notices served	13
		(b) Number of cases in which defects were remedied after the service of such notices	
		(i) By owners	13
		(ii) By Local Authority	Nil
	2.	Under the Housing Act, 1957	
		(a) Notices served for repairs (Section 9)	Nil
		(b) Number of notices served (Section 16)	7
		(c) Number of undertakings accepted	Nil
		(d) Number of demolition or closing orders made (Section 17)	7
		(e) Number of houses demolished during the year.	6
D.	Overcrowding (Part IV Housing Act, 1957)		
	1.	(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil
		(b) Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
		(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
	2.	(a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
		(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases	26
		(c) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved	Nil
	3.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	Nil

End of Section "D"

SECTION "E" - INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspection of all food premises in the town was carried out during the year. The various categories of premises dealt with are shown below and the number of inspections carried out dealt with in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Licensed Premises	28
Grocers	20
Greengrocers	6
Confectioners	5
Wet Fish Shop	1
Fish & Chip Shops	2
Cafe's	8
Butchers' shops	5
Bakehouses	3
Works Canteens	4
Registered premises for the sale of Ice Cream	28
School Meals Kitchens	10
Institution Kitchens	4
Total number of premises	124

There is one manufacturer of Ice-cream in the town and 27 retailers. The sale of the Soft-Mix product has increased recently, and there are three different manufacturers operating vehicles in the area. The Grading of this product is generally not so satisfactory as the hard ice-cream. The Gradings of Samples taken during the year are shown below:-

1970	No. of samples taken	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Hard Ice Cream	57	51	3	2	1
Soft Ice Cream	20	18	2	Nil	Nil

Milk and Dairies are no longer the responsibility of the District Council, Dealers' Licences being issued by the Worcestershire County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority. The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations are under the control of the County Public Health Inspector. Only limited sampling was carried out during the year, but results were satisfactory.

	No. of Samples Taken	Results
Pasteurised Milk	9	Satisfactory
Sterilized Milk (U.H.T.)	4	"
Raw Tuberculin Tested Milk	5	"
Spray Dried Milk	17	"

Examinations of Foodstuffs

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered voluntarily by the owners:-

400 lbs of Meat
21 lbs of Cod Fillets
45 lbs. of Corned Beef
12 lbs. of Canned Peaches
6 lbs. of Ox Tongue

The Imported Food Regulations 1968

The amount of footstuff examined as conveyed by containerisation vehicles from various ports to Droitwich was as follows:-

291 tons of spray-dried Milk Powder

Bacteriological sampling of the milk powder at regular intervals has on all occasions revealed 'no pathogens'.

Extraneous matter in food

The following complaints were investigated and taken up with the shopkeepers, or manufacturers. It was not found necessary to recommend court proceedings in any of these cases.

Pre-packed part baked loaf	-	Mould
Bottle of Milk	-	Piece of Glass
Bottle of Milk	-	Piece of Plastic
Milk Bottle	-	Mould growth
Pork Pie	-	Cellophane

End of Section "E"

SECTION "F"

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1970

Notifiable Diseases

Particulars of cases of infectious disease which occurred during the year are shown in the following table.

Age Group	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Polio-myelitis	Scarlet Fever	Food Poisoning	Infective Jaundice
Under 1 year	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	21	-	1	-	-	1	-
3 - 4 years	26	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 years +	41	-	-	-	1	-	-
10 years +	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
20 years +	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 years +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Totals	96	-	1	-	3	2	2

The number of cases of tuberculosis on the Register during 1970 are shown below:-

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on register at 1st January, 1970	3	1	-	1
Additions to register during the year - new cases	-	-	-	-
- transfers	1	1	-	-
	4	2	-	1
Deductions from register during the year	-	1	-	-
Number of cases on register at 31st December, 1970	4	1	-	-

The After Care Committee for South Worcestershire met on two occasions during 1970. The word "Tuberculosis" has been omitted from the title of this Committee and its constitution amended in order to cover the After Care of illness generally, but few applications for assistance are being received.

END OF SECTION "F"

SECTION "G"

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health were made as follows during 1970:-

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
1. Factories in which Sec.1,2,3, 4 & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	3	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority	61	20	3
3. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	64	23	3

NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Factory Inspector	No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
1. Want of Cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
2. Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
3. Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
4. Inadequate Ventilation	1	1	-	-	-
5. Ineffective drainage of Floors	-	-	-	-	-
6. Sanitary Conveniences (a)Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

Number of outworkers - NIL

End of Section "G"

Borough Surveyor's Department,
Covercroft,
Droitwich. WR9 8DD

August, 1971.

To: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and
Members of the Droitwich Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for my 26th year of service with your Council. I have noted several interesting matters of development which have taken place during the year such as:-

1. The formation of a Preservation Trust, given the task of preserving and bringing back into useful life the older and or more historic buildings in the town, in particular Priory House.

2. The setting up of the St. Peter's Fields Sports Association to develop St. Peter's Fields for the use of various Sports Clubs.

3. The study with a view to designation as a General Improvement Area that part of the town known as Newtown.

All these matters are of great importance to the life of the town and I have no doubt will be looked back upon with satisfaction in years to come.

The problem of brine, which at one time seemed might completely stifle further growth, has been overcome and one looks forward to renewed development.

Many are the problems which the Department has met during the year but with the support of your Council, help of my staff and co-operation of the other officers it has been possible to meet them.

Visits of Inspection

Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors are listed below:-

		1970
Accumulations found		12
Visits under Pet Animals Act		7
Visits to Piggeries		8
Drainage		
Drains found choked		7
Drains tested		6
Drains found defective		5
Visits to Works in Progress		14
Dwelling Houses		
Visits re:	Improvement Grants	89
	Repairs and Public Health Conditions	133
	Re-inspections re above	135
	Housing Act inspections	173
Visits to Factories re Trade Effluents Sampling		-
	Houses in Multiple occupation	66

	1970
Rodent Control	
Primary visits	18
Re-visits	21
Factory Act Visits	20
Food Hygiene	
Visits to:	
Butchers' shops	22
Bakehouses	17
Confectioners' shops	13
Grocers	86
Greengrocers	19
Fried Fish & Chip Shops	31
Ice Cream shops and Manufacturers	86
Restaurants, Cafes, Hotel & School Kitchens	28
Factory Canteens	14
Licensed Premises	23
Visits:-	
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	156
Clean Air Act	77
Caravans	46
Lido	8
Sewage Works	6
Miscellaneous visits	125
Food Vending and Delivery Vehicles	9
Noise Abatement visits	3
Sewage Works samples taken	181
County Analyst	3
Public Health Laboratory	31
Visits Imported Food Regulations 1968	32

Clearance Areas

Five houses were represented for clearance during the year which included the following groups:-

Nos. 36, 38 and 40, Albert Street - Demolition Orders

Nos. 22 and 24, Albert Street - Demolition Orders

In addition the two following premises were made the subject of Closing Orders:-

No. 22, Hanbury Road

No. 33C, Tagwell Road

Nos. 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, and 64, Worcester Road, forming the Worcester Road No. 1 Clearance Area were acquired and negotiations were in progress for resale to a Developer. This will enable a difficult piece of redevelopment to take place.

Improvement Grants

Improvement Grants have been paid to the Trustees of the Coventry Charity Almshouses, for oil fired central heating and the provision of hot water to the domestic washing facilities of 28 units of living accommodation, the amount of Grant being £2,229.

A Standard Improvement Grant of £124 was paid to the owner/occupier of No. 16, St. Mary's Road.

Improvements to Council owned property

No. 9, Ombersley Road.

Flats Nos. 9, 9A, 13, 13A, 21, 22, 32, 32A, Norbury House.

Vines Lane, Nos. 2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20,22,24,88,90,92,94,96,98,100, 102,124, and 126.

St. Richard's Gardens Nos. 1,2,10,12,20,22, and 24.

Your Council will note that you have now completed the improvement of all your pre-war Council houses; (Owing to the uncertain life of the Vines Lane houses, these were not improved to the same standard as the remainder). It is an achievement for a comparatively small authority to have completed the modernisation of all their pre-war council houses by this date. I think there is no doubt that there are not many authorities who can meet this record.

Comments on the Newtown General Improvement Area are made elsewhere. If this Scheme can be undertaken, it will certainly rank as a major achievement of redevelopment within the Borough.

A further addition in the form of the demolition of an old brick outhouse and its replacement with a red cedar playroom was made to The Firs, Ombersley Road at the request of the tenants, which gave improved conditions at the house where Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have a number of foster children under their care.

The following dwellings were handed over:-

Steynors Avenue	-	14 Old Persons' Bungalows.
Lullow Field House	-	8 Old Persons' Flats out of a total of 33

Town Development

Work of development continued apace, the major building of the Boycott Estate moving to its close, and proposals were in hand for the development of Westacre. This entailed the construction of part of the Distributor Road which will in due course relieve traffic going under the two railway bridges in Kidderminster Road, and also allow a much better footpath system for the residents of Boycott to move to the Town Centre in safer and more attractive ways.

Area of Special Consideration - Newtown General Improvement Area

The Borough Council set up a Working Party under the direction of the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Alderman R. D. N. Fabricius, to prepare reports for presentation to the Borough Council upon the desirability or otherwise of the Newtown Area being made a General Improvement Area. Many meetings took place and a great deal of study was given to this purpose, and eventually an area was recommended which included Miller Street, Burrish Street, Albert Street, West Street, St. Nicholas Street, St. Richard's Gardens and the northern side of Stalls Farm Road. The Borough Council accepted this recommendation informally, and authorised that all the residents should be circulated, intimating the proposals and an Exhibition of the proposals prepared by the Chief Planner/Architect should be staged, followed by a Public Meeting at which questions could be asked and the matter discussed.

The Working Party proceeded on these lines, which culminated in an Exhibition and Public Meeting, both of which were well attended. The Public Meeting was most successful when practically every household in the Area was represented and very helpful discussions took place between the public and the Working Party on the platform.

Arising from this, the Borough Council felt confident that the wishes of the Residents were that some improvements should proceed, and the Working Party was again instructed to go ahead and finalise the proposals, and cost them, with a view to a formal Resolution and application to the Minister for the making of a General Improvement Area in respect of the Newtown Area.

Private Housing Building

The building of private houses during 1970 was in a somewhat stagnant condition, primarily due to the problems related to salt subsidence. A small measure of development did continue, with houses being built in Tagwell Road, Orchard Rise, York Avenue and Rye Close.

Informal discussions continued with Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries concerning wild brine pumping at Stoke Prior and the problems of subsidence concerning the Borough Council both with regard to new building and existing houses. These discussions resulted in I.C.I. deciding to remove their brine pumping from Stoke Prior to alternative sites in other areas of the country where controlled pumping would take place. I.C.I advised that their pumping operations would cease in 1973. This immediately tended to ease the situation, and it was possible for a conclusion of the problem to be seen.

At the same time, the Borough Council had appointed their own Consultant Geologist to report upon the situation, whilst two private developers had appointed their own Consultant Geologist who was examining and reporting on sites east of Tagwell Road and The Holloway. Such reports inevitably take quite a long time, and it is hoped that 1971 will see the recommencement of private building in the south eastern part of the town.

Because of the uncertainty of private development, the Development Committee were requested to make land available for sponsored private housing as soon as possible, and the County Planning Committee were asked to investigate whether further areas to the west and north west outside the present Borough boundaries could be made available for residential private development.

Nos. 6 and 8, High Street, Droitwich

These two shop properties which front on to the public pavement in High Street gave concern to the Borough Council regarding safety of pedestrians in High Street. The owner of the properties decided to demolish and rebuild. The County Planning Authority, however, decided that the front and the side wall bounding Tower Hill should remain intact, as the building formed part of a group, all of which were scheduled as of architectural interest. Protracted negotiations and discussions took place, and eventually the owner agreed to retain these two particular walls. Approval was given to the demolition of the remainder of the property, and work upon restoration and rebuilding was in progress.

Droitwich Preservation Trust

For many years, the Borough Council have been concerned and have had before them the question of the future of Priory House. This old building, of considerable historic and architectural interest, situated in Friar Street has been empty for some years and fell into a dilapidated state. Whilst first aid repairs have been carried out, the property has become a target for vandals, and could easily deteriorate into such a condition as to be incapable of satisfactory repair. The Borough Council found themselves faced with the difficulty of knowing how to raise the necessary funds to fully restore the property, and further, as to the future use of the building. This was probably the most important, but only one of a number of similar buildings in the town. After careful consideration, the Council decided to sponsor the setting up of a voluntary Trust made up of interested local people who would accept responsibility for the restoration of all the old worth-while buildings in the Borough.

To this end, Droitwich Preservation Trust came into being, and decided as their first priority that steps should be taken to restore Priory House, and to find a suitable use for the building in the future.

Norbury House

During the year, your Council gave a great deal of thought to the use of the first floor of Norbury House as Council offices, together with the development of the ground floor and the incorporation of a heating system which could eventually be extended to cover the whole building. It was decided to proceed with this proposal, and it is hoped that 1971 will see the departments of the Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer and Housing Manager moved into the Norbury.

Highways

30,000 sq. yds. of surface dressing were undertaken during the year.

It was at last found possible to re-surface the very pitted concrete carriageways of Stalls Farm Road and Nunnery Avenue and this much needed improvement was undertaken.

Sewage Disposal

A major development was realised with the opening of the new Sewage Works at Ladywood, (now called Ladywood Water Pollution Control Works) by the Right Honourable Peter Walker, M.B.E.,M.P., This modern plant marks a great step forward from the old Sewage Works which had been in operation for many years in Kidderminster Road. It should, however, be borne in mind that the old Works did in fact produce a good effluent, up until the rapid development of the town began.

For the best part of 100 years, sewage disposal for Droitwich had been on land between Kidderminster Road and Ombersley Road, in the first instance consisting of some small sedimentation tanks from which sewage was pumped into a series of ditches, and after treatment by land irrigation, entering the River Salwarpe. In 1931 a new bacteriological plant was built on the same site, land irrigation ceased, but some part of the old farm was still used for sludge disposal.

By the end of 1970, the old Sewage Disposal Works were being dismantled and the site will, in 1971, be levelled and brought into use as playing fields.

The Briar Hill Pumping Station came into operation. This pumped sewage from the Boycott area into the trunk sewer.

With the introduction of Ladywood, the old pumping stations at Princes Avenue and Falsam Pits became redundant and were dismantled. Also the new temporary pumping stations at Wheelers Bridge and Chawson became redundant, and were dismantled.

A new Pumping Station at Primsland was constructed, in conjunction with the private development of this area of the town, the cost being borne by the developers. Some sewer works were carried out in conjunction with the Primsland station.

The trunk sewer laid at Ladywood was completed, and has now been in operation for some months.

In this connection, the laying of the new sewer up to the bottom of Winnetts Lane has eased the flow along the sewer through Queen Street Car Park, which has much reduced flooding in the yards of properties in Queen Street.

The Borough Council acting on the advice of their Consultants decided that the 'consent to discharge' issued by the Severn River Authority in respect of Ladywood Works was too stringent, particularly in relationship to the discharge of metals. A meeting was held with the Severn River Authority to discuss the matter, when the Authority indicated that they were unable to make any variation. As a result, the Borough Council have appealed to the Minister.

The Ladywood plant came into operation without particular trouble, and with only minor difficulties being encountered. Prior to operation, the 'Pasveer' Ditch had been in use for about a year at Ladywood, producing a satisfactory effluent. With the major plant in operation, and with only some 50% of flow being received at this stage, the 'Pasveer' Ditch was moth-balled and will not return into operation until the discharge has reached 1,200,000 gallons per day.

The appointment of an Effluent Control Officer/Chemist, Mr.K. Kingham has allowed much closer attention to be given to trade waste. All the old Trade Effluent Agreements were cancelled and a process of 'Consents' brought into operation with appropriate trade waste charges for treatment. It is hoped that a much tighter control will result, which is important in view of the stringent requirements of the consent issued by the Severn River Authority authorising the Borough Council to discharge effluent from Ladywood into the River Salwarpe.

Refuse Collection

A weekly system of collection has continued without particular trouble during the year. Following a detailed work study, a bonus scheme was introduced and this has resulted in a much better use of labour together with some increase in wages and shorter hours for the men concerned.

The use of bulk containers for the larger premises in the town has continued and now almost all have the large 1.1/4 cu.yd. bulk containers in operation. This is a much easier and cleaner means of storage and has the great advantage that emptying can be carried out mechanically in much quicker time.

Salvage

Salvage was collected as follows during the year.

	£	.	d
Mixed Waste Paper	258	.	47
Scrap Metal	90	.	35
	348	.	82

Refuse Disposal

Refuse collected from the town is, by agreement with the Rural District Council, taken to a tip in the old brick pit at Hanbury Wharf controlled by the Rural District Council. This is much more satisfactory than the tip at Fernhill Heath which has now been closed.

The Hanbury Wharf pit is an excellent site for the disposal of refuse, and some thought during the year was given to the extension of the life of the pit by either pulverisation of refuse, which was considered by the Rural District Council, or by incineration, which was considered by the Borough Council.

The Rural District Council decided not to proceed with pulverisation, basically on the grounds of cost.

A somewhat special circumstance exists in the Borough in connection with incineration, because with the rapid growth of new estates, it could be possible to introduce district heating, with heat from an incinerator being used as a supplementary source of heat. Some discussions with various bodies upon such a proposal took place, but at the end of the year, no decision had been reached. In view of the forthcoming Local Government reorganisation under which refuse disposal will become a matter for the County Council, it would seem unlikely that any decisions or variations in mode of tipping will take place before reorganisation.

Itinerant Vendors - Queen Street Car Park

Caravans are being parked from time to time on this car park and there is no doubt that if action was not taken to require them to move, a caravan colony would quickly assemble. The general objection to this form of dwelling is that many of them have no sanitary accommodation and a most offensive local nuisance quickly results. A great deal of rubbish is spread about, and general annoyance caused to the residents of the neighbourhood. These are not gypsies in the true sense of the word, but are itinerant vendors who collect scrap metal and carry out tarmac work. Their removal from the car park is always an unpleasant business, and it will be a considerable relief when a number of recognised parking areas for these caravans are provided by the County Council.

Brine Baths Chimney

A number of complaints were received concerning the dust and grit which was deposited upon properties in the neighbourhood of the brine baths allegedly from this chimney. The Medical Trust disputed that this was in fact so, and tests were being taken to try and determine from whence the material came.

Parks and Open Spaces

These are becoming very much more numerous with the development of the town, and the amount of grass to be cut regularly amounts to approximately 120,000 sq. yds. This is a very considerable undertaking both from the point of view of labour and even more particularly the supply of machines. Many of the grassed areas are used for play areas and all kinds of objects are left upon them, many of which cannot be easily seen with the result that maintenance work required to mowers is very considerable. In the early part of the Summer the Work Study Officer made a study of grass cutting, and before the end of the year, a Bonus Scheme was introduced which worked well, and as a result, a complete regular cutting programme was undertaken and maintained.

Generally, the Parks and Open Spaces were well maintained with the labour and funds available, and a small improvement made by turfing the wide grass verge beside the service road to houses in Hanbury Road.

A much needed extension of playing fields in the Salwarpe Valley on the site of the old refuse tip was undertaken by the Town Development Committee, and it is hoped that the 1971/72 football season will see this area brought into use. The playing field area concerned was widened by the straightening out of the River.

With the old Sewage Works being taken out of use, it is hoped that 1971 will see this area of the Valley also reclaimed.

St. Peter's Fields

These fields, which had been a gift to the town and had for many years been let upon an agricultural tenancy, came before the Council's attention when the tenant indicated that he was proposing to give up the tenancy, and at the same time it was made known that St. Peter's Farm was to be sold.

Discussions took place with the late Alderman Dr. Shirley Jones who had given the greater part of the land to the Council, as to its future use, and he willingly agreed to it being used for suitable local sporting activities. A scheme was then prepared to incorporate the farm, which was being purchased by the County Council in conjunction with the proposals they had for building a Primary School on the site of the Old Rectory.

Contd/.

Ethnical Wonders - Week Start for Fest

Ceremonies are being prepared from time to time on this our week and there is no doubt that it seems not taken to requires time to serve, a serious colony would quickly succeed. The general objection to this form of dwelling is that many of them have no sanitary accommodation and a most efficiently local nuisance quickly results. A great deal of rubbish is spread about, and general annoyance caused to the residents of the neighbourhood. There are not dwellings in the home areas of the country, but are ethnical wonders the nation across social and country but travel. Their removal from the one part is always an unpleasant business, and it will be a considerable relief when a number of recognised prepaling areas for these caravans are provided by the County Council.

Dump Bubble Chimney

A number of enthusiasts were recently conveying the dust and grit which was deposited upon proportion in the neighbourhood of the tube, quite rightly from this chimney. The holders must be proud that this was in fact so, and tests were being taken to try and determine from whence the material came.

Fists and Open Spaces

These are essential, very much more necessary with the development of the town, and the growth of areas so be not regularly enough to approximately 120,000 at, yes. This is a very [illegible] important both from the point of view of health and also more particularly this supply of amenities. Many of the present areas are used for [illegible] which consists of [illegible] left upon them, many of which cannot be easily [illegible] with the result that maintenance work required to [illegible] is very considerable. In the early part of the Dominion the [illegible] of a strip of grass existing, and before the end of the year, a [illegible] was introduced which worked well, and is a novelty, a simple regulation prevents the undergrowth and rubbish.

Generally, the Fists and Open Spaces were well maintained with [illegible] and fruits available, and a small tip-wagon was by which the [illegible] were kept, the service road to Ramsay Road.

A much needed extension of playing fields in the Dalmarnock [illegible] on the site of the old [illegible] was undertaken by the Town Development Committee, and it is hoped that the [illegible] Mill [illegible] will be [illegible] brought into use. The playing field area [illegible] by the [illegible] out of the River.

With the old Bonnie [illegible] being taken out of use, it is hoped that 1931 will see this area of the Valley [illegible].

St. Rollox Fields

These fields, which had been a [illegible] in the town and had for many years been let upon an [illegible] tenancy, were [illegible] the Council's attention when the tenant indicated that he was prepared to give up the tenancy, and the same also it was quite proper that St. Rollox's Park was to be a [illegible].

Discussion took place with the tenant. [illegible] Mr. Bartley James who had given the property of the land to the Council, as to its future use, and in addition [illegible] it being used for suitable local sporting activities. A number was then prepared to undertake the Park, which was being promoted by the County Council in connection with the proposals they had for building a [illegible] school on the site of the Old Rectory.

Contd/.

Somewhat prolonged negotiations took place between the Education Committee and the Borough Council and eventually it was agreed that an exchange of land by lease should take place making part of St. Peter's Fields available beside the new school for use as a playground and the farm and adjoining land available to the Borough Council for sporting purposes. At this point it became known that St. Peter's Manor was also on the market for sale, and the Borough Council decided to endeavour to acquire the property with a view to its general incorporation with the fields and farm to make a Sports Centre.

Discussions also took place with the Secretary of the Regional Sports Council who was most helpful in his advice, particularly relating to the attraction of Grants for the future development. As a result it was decided to set up a Sports Association known as Droitwich (St. Peter's Fields) Sports Association which would be made up of representatives of various sports clubs, together with members of the Borough Council with terms of reference to undertake and manage the development. By the end of the year, the formation of an Association had been tentatively agreed upon and the Borough Council were negotiating plans for approval. The first application for grant had been made to the Regional Sports Council by the Cricket Club, a member of the Sports Association.

This is a great move forward, and in due course should be a wonderful asset to the Borough.

Lido

Various minor improvements were carried out. The season was relatively successful bearing in mind the somewhat indifferent weather, and a minimum of complaints were received.

Further improvements were carried out to the Lido Cafe with the provision of equipment and new flooring, which added greatly to the attraction and enabled a better service to the public.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

GRAHAM L. ROBINSON.

Borough Engineer & Surveyor.

GLR/MGM/FEH